

Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 EB-07

ARAE-00 /077 W

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P 031528Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7830

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY

UNCLAS CARACAS 2265

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR VE

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT PEREZ DEPARTS FOR ALGIERS

1. PRESIDENT CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ LEFT FOR ALGIERS AT 12:30 A.M. MARCH 3 ABOARD A SPECIAL VIASA PLANE. HE WAS SEEN OFF AT MAIQUETIA AIRPORT BY MRS. PEREZ, A LARGE GROUP OF GOV OFFICIALS AND BY THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS. PEREZ WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MIISTER OF STATE FOR INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS MANUEL PEREZ GUERRERO, COPEI SENATOR GODOFREDO GONZALEZ, CHAIRMAN OF THE SENTATE PETROLEUM COMMITTEE; AD DEPUTY ARTURO HERNANDEZ GRISANTI, CHAIRMAN OF THE SAME COMMITTEE IN THE CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES; AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE JOSE LUIS SALCEDO BASTARDO; FEDEPETROL PRESIDENT CARLOS PINERUA; FETRAHIDROCARBUROS PRESIDENT ANTONIO MACHADO; FOREING MINISTRY OFFICIALS; AND A LARGE NUMBER OF JOURNALISTS.

2. IN THE AFTERNOON BEFORE DEPARTURE PEREZ SWORE IN AS ACTING PRESIDENT DURING HIS ABSENCE FROM VENEZUELA. DR. OCTAVIO LEPAGE, MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS. MINISTER OF STATE FOR INFORMATION GUIDO GROOSCORS (UNTIL RECENTLY NUMBER TWO IN THE MIISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS) WAS SWORN IN AS ACTING MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

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3. EARLIER ON MARCH 2, ON THE OCCASION OF THE INSTALLATION OF

THE 1975 ORDINARY SESSION OF THE VENEZUELAN CONGRESS (SEPTTEL), PEREZ DECLARED THAT HE WAS GOING TO ALGIERS "TO REPRESENT VENEZUELA AT AN EVENT WHICH MARKS A MILESTONE IN THE HISTORY OF HUMANITY. WE ARE NOT GOING TO ALGIERS AS TRADERS WHO MANIPULATE INTERESTS, OR TO CONFRONT THEM AND TO UNITE THEM WITH THOSE WHO CONTROL AND GATHER TOGETHER THE INTERESTS OF THE ARAB WORLD, OR TO WORK WITH THEM FOR THE EXCLUSIVE BENEFIT OF THE COUNTRIES WE REPRESENT. NOR ARE WE GOING ONLY TO PLACE THEM (I.E., OUR INTERESTS) AT THE SERVICE OF THE WORLD WHICH WE REPRESENT, OF THE THIRD WORLD, OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. WE WILL MAKE USE OF THIS EXCEPTIONAL, HISTORIC OPPORTUNITY.. TO PROPOSE TO THE HISTORICALLY POWERFUL COUNTRIES, WHICH HAVE MANIPULATED OUR INTERESTS AND DISPOSED OF OUR RESOURCES, AND AUTHENTIC DIALOGUE, CAPABLE OF PROPITIATING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, WITHOUT STRINGS OR CONDITIONS, AS AN EXPRESSION OF THE SOLIDARITY WHICH IS BASED ON TRUE BROTHERHOOD AMONG PEOPLES."

MCCLINTOCK

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